

Deduction Mysteries

CASE 01

An original land deed was taken from the storage basement of City Records Office during the overnight window between 00:45 and 04:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Zephyr (administrator), Leila (researcher), Helena (clerk), Akhil (intern), Aaliyah (conservation specialist), Galina (head archivist), Kasper (volunteer), Dario (genealogist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the original land deed?

1. Aaliyah lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
2. Galina lacks specialized engineering certification – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Leila has familiarity with the security routing and administrator credentials and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
4. Zephyr was officially signed out at 23:20 via the front-desk register.
5. But: however the elevator override log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 00:45.
6. Kasper had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
7. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 04:15, and familiarity with the security routing.
8. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Zephyr.
9. Dario lacks administrator credentials – security audit confirms.
- 10 Initial assumption pointed to Leila because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
- 11 Zephyr has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, familiarity with the security routing, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:45 and 04:15).

CASE 02

The signed jerseys were taken from the equipment shed of Helix Sports Complex during the overnight window between 00:30 and 04:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Ramona (athletic trainer), Adrian (star player), Yvonne (head coach), Priya (rookie player), Indira (facilities manager), Tomas (equipment manager), Fariha (team statistician), Quincy (referee). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the signed jerseys?

1. However: Yvonne is cleared – but two independent witnesses confirm a video call with them throughout the window.
2. Adrian's facility camera shows them off-site the entire window.
3. However: Priya is cleared – but locker-room sensor places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
4. Quincy claims to have exited the building at 22:35 – the official badge log confirms this.
5. Initial assumption pointed to Ramona because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
6. The theft involved a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet.
7. The trace at the scene (a hand-machined tool stocked in only one closet) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Quincy.
8. Indira's witness teammate shows them off-site the entire window.
9. Fariha's badge log shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 Quincy has all four requirements: clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, knowledge of the seal serial pattern, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 00:30 and 04:30).

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CASE 03

The laptop with trade secrets were taken from the executive suite of Cedarstone Inc during the overnight window between 01:30 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Idris (executive assistant), Fariha (security officer), Renata (CFO), Esme (facilities coordinator), Katarina (legal counsel), Kasper (HR director), Hattie (records clerk). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the laptop with trade secrets?

1. Hattie has advanced restoration training and after-hours building access – initial suspicion was high.
2. Fariha lacks advanced restoration training – confirmed by personnel records.
3. Four independent requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:30, and possession of the specific tool used.
4. However: Hattie is cleared – but their document-room code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
5. Hattie filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
6. But: however seal serial registry records show they re-authenticated from an internal network at 1:00.
7. The corporate theft involved an encryption signature tied to the internal training network.
8. Kasper filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
9. Renata's witness account shows them off-site the entire window.
- 10 However: Kasper is cleared – but printer log places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
- 11 Esme had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
- 12 ~~Katarina has all four requirements: advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:30 and 05:30).~~

CASE 04

The production funds were taken from the backstage left of The Aldermarsh Theatre during the overnight window between 01:00 and 05:30. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Phaedra (prop master), Dimah (stage manager), Esme (director), Suri (lighting tech), Nikolai (understudy), Vidal (stagehand), Bram (costume designer). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the production funds?

1. Nikolai has specialized engineering certification and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
2. Four independent requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:00 and 05:30, and possession of the specific tool used.
3. Initial assumption pointed to Esme because of being seen near the building, but this has been independently ruled out.
4. Bram has all four requirements: specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:00 and 05:30).
5. Nikolai was passed over for a recent promotion – appears to have motive.
6. Dimah clashed publicly with management – appears to have motive.
7. However: Nikolai is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
8. Esme has only possession of the specific tool used of the four requirements.
9. Dimah has a verified relationship with the donor and possession of the specific tool used and specialized engineering certification – initial suspicion was high.
- 10 Suri has only specialized engineering certification of the four requirements.

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CASE 05

An exam answer key was taken from the library archive of Cedarvale High during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:00. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 7 suspects are under investigation: Priya (principal), Hakim (school counselor), Sami (secretary), Phaedra (teacher), Anastasia (coach), Diallo (librarian), Kalisa (janitor). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the exam answer key?

1. Phaedra had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
2. Kalisa has elevated system privileges and documented hands-on history with the item and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion was high.
3. However: Priya is cleared – but they were on a documented overnight flight, verified by airline records.
4. Kalisa had financial pressure – appears to have motive.
5. Anastasia has all four requirements: elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, possession of the specific tool used, and meets the temporal requirement (presence between 01:15 and 05:00).
6. But: however the DHCP log shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:15.
7. Priya has possession of the specific tool used and elevated system privileges – initial suspicion was high.
8. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Anastasia.
9. Anastasia claims to have exited the building at 23:10 – the official badge log confirms this.
- 10 Phaedra has elevated system privileges and possession of the specific tool used – initial suspicion . was high.

CASE 06

A restricted donor file was taken from the archive stacks of Pemberton Genealogy Center during the overnight window between 01:15 and 05:15. The operation required specific qualifications, access, and timing. 8 suspects are under investigation: Akhil (head archivist), Stellan (clerk), Kasimir (security officer), Cassia (conservation specialist), Daphne (records administrator), Cyrus (intern), Vera (administrator), Thora (genealogist). Several have strong-looking motives.

Q Who took the restricted donor file?

1. The trace at the scene (a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply) ties directly to inventory or systems uniquely accessible to Cyrus.
2. The theft involved a seal cut with a serial pattern from a specific supply.
3. Initial assumption pointed to Thora because of proximity to the scene earlier, but this has been independently ruled out.
4. However: Akhil is cleared – but vault entry record places them at the hospital with a family emergency during the entire window.
5. Cyrus their video call ended at 23:20 according to the system.
6. Cassia lacks a master key issued only to senior staff – confirmed by personnel records.
7. However: Thora is cleared – but their admin code was revoked the day before – confirmed in the security audit.
8. Thora has possession of the specific tool used and a verified relationship with the donor – initial suspicion was high.
9. But: however the VPN session record shows their vehicle remained in the lot until well after 01:15.
- 10 Akhil filed a grievance two weeks ago – appears to have motive.
- 11 Thora had financial pressure – appears to have motive.

Answer Key – Deduction Mysteries

Solve before peeking. Correct suspect and key reasoning steps below.

Case 01 E) Zephyr

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, administrator credentials, presence between 00:45 and 04:15, familiarity with the security routing) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Helena appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 02 B) Quincy

- Four requirements (clearance to the restricted archive, clean-room or vault clearance, presence between 00:30 and 04:30, knowledge of the seal serial pattern) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Yvonne appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 03 C) Katarina

- Four requirements (advanced restoration training, after-hours building access, presence between 01:30 and 05:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Kasper appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 04 C) Bram

- Four requirements (specialized engineering certification, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:00 and 05:30, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Nikolai appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 05 A) Anastasia

- Four requirements (elevated system privileges, documented hands-on history with the item, presence between 01:15 and 05:00, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
 - Kalisa appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.
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Case 06 D) Cyrus

- Four requirements (a master key issued only to senior staff, a verified relationship with the donor, presence between 01:15 and 05:15, possession of the specific tool used) plus a unique technical trace narrow the case.
- Akhil appears guilty (has multiple requirements, has motive) but is cleared by an independent verification.